Blind people in the country

1712. SHRI CHOS. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of blind people in the country as of 2004 in each State;

(b) what is the total percentage of men and women;

(c) the main reasons for this blindness;

(d) the steps being taken to eradicate blindness in the country;

(e) the number of hospitals which are specialized in the country to treat the blindness; and

(f) the total number of children in the blind category in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per National Survey on Blindness (2001-03). There are estimated 1.2 crore blind persons in the country. State-wise estimates are enclosed as Statement (See below).

(b) Estimated prevalence of blindness is 0.91% in males and 1.29% in females.

(c) Main reasons for blindness are Cataract, Uncorrected Refractive Errors, Glaucoma and Corneal Blindness.

(d) Under National Programme for Control of Blindness, following steps are being taken to reduce the prevalence of blindness:

1. Promoting free Intra Ocular Lens implantation for treatment of cataract;

2. Detection and correction of refractive errors in school children and providing glasses to the poor;

3. Promoting eye donation and eye banking for treatment of corneal blindness;

4. Public awareness for prevention and treatment of eye diseases;

5. Enhancing capacity for eye care services in Government and Voluntary sectors by providing assistance for infrastructure development, equipment and training.

(e) Eye Care Services are available in all the medical colleges, district hospitals and large number of NGOs and private hospitals.

(f) No nation-wise survey has been undertaken to assess blindness in children.

Statement

Prevalence of Blindness and Estimated Number of Blind Persons in India

State/UT Code	India/State/ Union Territory	Census Population (2001)	Annual Growth Rate*	Estimated Population 2004	Prevalence of Blindness	Estimated Blind Persons (in lakh)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	356265	2.39	381809	0.67	0.03
2.	Andhra Pradesh	75727541	1.30	78680915	1.50	11.80
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1091117	2.33	1167386	1.23	0.14
4.	Assam	26638407	1.73	28020940	1.34	3.75
5.	Bihar	82878796	2.50	89094706	0.78	6.95
6.	Chandigarh	900914	3.39	992537	1.89	0.19
7.	Chhattisgarh	20795956	1.66	21831595	1.61	3.51
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	220451	4.65	251204	1.07	0.03
9.	Daman and Diu	158059	4.42	179018	1.07	0.02
10.	Delhi	13782976	3.81	15358370	0.63	0.97
11.	Goa	1343998	1.39	1400043	2.03	0.28
12.	Gujarat	50596992	2.03	53678349	1.07	5.74
13.	Haryana	21082989	2.47	22645238	1.13	2.56
14.	Himachal Pradesh	6077248	1.62	6372602	0.70	0.45
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	10069917	2.55	10840266	1.61	1.75
16.	Jharkhand	26909428	2.09	28596649	0.78	2.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Karnataka	52733958	1.59	55249368	1.78	9.83
18.	Kerala	31838619	0.90	32698262	0.56	1.83
19.	Lakshadweep	60595	1.59	63485	0.89	0.01
20.	Madhya Pradesh	60385118	2.18	64334305	1.16	7.46
21.	Maharashtra	96752247	2.04	102673485	0.95	9.75
22.	Manipur	2388634	2.63	2577097	0.65	0.17
23.	Meghalaya	2306069	2.62	2487326	0.22	0.05
24.	Mizoram	891058	2.56	959491	0.65	0.06
25.	Nagaland	1988636	4.97	2285142	0.38	0.09
26.	Orissa	36706920	1.48	38336707	1.40	5.37
27.	Pondicherry	973829	1.87	1028461	0.78	0.08
28.	Punjab	24289296	1.80	25600918	1.01	2.59
29.	Rajasthan	56473122	2.49	60691664	1.55	9.41
30.	Sikkim	540493	2.85	586705	0.45	0.03
31.	Tamil Nadu	62110839	1.06	64085964	0.78	5.00
32.	Tripura	3191168	1.46	3330941	1.18	0.39
33.	Uttar Pradesh	166052859	2.30	177510506	0.94	16.69
34.	Uttaranchal	8479562	1.76	8927283	0.56	0.50
35.	West Bengal	80221171	1.64	84168053	1.19	10.02
	INDIA	1027015247	1.93	1087086789	1.10	119.72
*Census of India 2001						
	Male	531277078	1.93	562038021	0.91	51.15
	Famale	495738169	1.93	524441409	1.29	67.65